24. (New) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein an acknowledgment message comprises a plurality of the said data units.

25. (New) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein one value of a status bit is indicative of its corresponding data unit not being the last data unit of a set of consecutive data units whose spacing bits together represent a number indicative of a spacing between one incorrectly received datagram and a succeeding incorrectly received datagram.

26. (New) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the other value of a status bit in a datagram whose spacing bits represent a predetermined number is indicative of adjacent data units representing a number indicative of a number of consecutive incorrectly received datagrams.

27. (New) A method as claimed in claim 26, wherein the said predetermined number is zero.

28. (New) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein an acknowledgment message includes data identifying the set of datagrams whose reception is described by the message.

29. (New) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein each data unit consists of four or more bits.

30. (New) A method as claimed in claim 29, wherein each datagram consists of four bits.

31. (New) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein comprising the step of generating an acknowledgment message comprising the plurality of data units and transmitting that message to a transmitter of the datagrams.

32. (New) A method as claimed in claim 23, wherein the communication link from the transmitter to receiver comprises a radio link.

33. (New) A method as claimed in claim 32, wherein the communication link from the transmitter to the receiver comprises a radio link.

34. (New) A method as claimed in claim 33, wherein the radio link is a wideband code division multiple access link.

35. (New) A receiver for receiving a series of datagrams from a transmitter, comprising:

a datagram checking unit for determining which of the datagrams have been incorrectly received; and

an acknowledgment message generator for generating acknowledgment messages, each acknowledgment message comprising a plurality of a data units, each data unit comprising:

a status bit indicative of the status of the data unit; and

a plurality of spacing bits together forming a binary representation of a number at least partially indicative of the spacing between one incorrectly received datagram and a succeeding incorrectly received datagram.

36. (New) A receiver as claimed in claim 35, comprising a transmitting unit for transmitting the acknowledgment messages to a transmitter.

37. (New) A receiver as claimed in claim 35, comprising a memory connected to the datagram checking unit for storing information indicating which of the datagrams has been incorrectly received.

38. (New) A receiver as claimed in claim 35, wherein each datagram comprises checksum information and the datagram checking unit is capable of calculating a checksum for a received datagram and comparing that checksum with the checksum information comprised in the datagram to determine whether the datagram is correctly received.

39. (New) A receiver as claimed in claim 35, wherein each data unit consists of four bits.

40. (New) A receiver as claimed in claim 35, wherein the acknowledgment generator is implemented in hardware.

41. (New) A receiver as claimed in claim 35, wherein the receiver is a radio receiver.

42. (New) A receiver as claimed in claim 35, wherein the receiver is a cellular radio terminal.